

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 06238 131952Z

15
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 AID-05 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6783

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DEPT FOR CU/WE

PASS EUR LABOR ADVISOR GOOTT AND TO GERALD HOLMES, ILAB
AT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, ELAB, SP
SUBJECT: PROJECT FOR LABOR LEADERS

REF: STATE 188203

1. THE EMBASSY IS MOST INTERESTED IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM FOR LABOR LEADERS DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION PERIOD. AS THE DEPT IS AWARE, WE PLAN TO NOMINATE A SMALL 3-MAN GROUP REPRESENTING THE PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION FREE TRADE UNION: THE SOCIALIST UGT 'UNION GENERAL DE TRABAJADORES), THE SOCIAL-CHRISTIAN USO(UNION SINDICAL OBRERA), AND THE BARCELONA-BASED CNT (CONFEDERACION NACIONAL DE TRABAJO). WE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO NOMINATE A FOURTH REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE BASQUE-CHRISTIAN STV (SOLIDARIDAD DE TRABAJADORES VASCOS), BUT WE APPRECIATE THE PRACTICAL LIMITATIONS AND WILL RECOMMEND AN STV MAN FOR A FUTURE IV GRANT.

2. WE ARE MINDFUL THAT THE DEPT HAS REQUESTED COMPLETE BIO-DATA BY AUGUST 15. UNFORTUNATELY, AUGUST IS THE VACATION MONTH IN SPAIN, AND THE EMBASSY MAY NOT BE ABLE
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PAGE 02 MADRID 06238 131952Z

TO PROVIDE ALL THE NOMINATIONS UNTIL EARLY SEPTEMBER.

PRELIMINARY INFORMAL SOUNDINGS (NO INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED) INDICATE THAT OUR UGT NOMINEE WILL EITHER BE THEIR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS MAN OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE UGT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THE USO HAS A POLICY OF NOT RPT NOT ACCEPTING INVITATIONS FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS OR FROEIGN POLITICAL PARTIES. HOWEVER, USO FIGURES CAN, AS IN THE PAST, ACCEPT INVITATIONS IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY (MADRID 5793), AND A USO NOMINEE WILL THUS ALSO BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY. THE CNT NOMINEE WILL BE SELECTED AFTER ON-THE-SPOT CONSULTATION WITH AMCONGEN BARCELONA.

3. LABOR WILL BE A CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN THE CURRENT POLITICAL REFORM PROCESS IN SPAIN, AND THIS PROJECT FOR LABOR LEADERS IS PARTICULARLY OPPORTUNE. THE DEPT'S TENTATIVE APPROVAL OF OUR 3-MAN GROUP CONCEPT PENDING THE SUBMISSION OF NAMES WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. STABLER

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